

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, after line 3, please insert the following new section title and paragraph:

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

This application is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/386,353 filed August 31, 1999, which is incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16 at line 8 with the following:

Continuing the above example, if in response to the question “Whom do you socialize with or trust in the target community?,” a first respondent, Alexis, lists Bob, Calvin, and Diane, connections are made between the nodes for Alexis and Bob, Alexis and Calvin, ~~Alexis and Bob,~~ and Alexis and Diane. Further, the flow of the influence from Bob, Calvin, and Diane to Alexis is identified by the connections in the influence network.